

## **Invasive Biting Insect: The Asian Tiger Mosquito**

The Asian Tiger mosquito is a vector (carrier) of Dengue Fever, and a potential carrier of Yellow Fever, encephalitis, and heartworm in pets.

After first being found in Houston, TX, this mosquito species has quickly spread to other areas within the US. It is believed to have been brought into the U.S. via shipments of old tires from Asia.

### **Interesting Facts**

The Asian Tiger mosquito is believed to have been accidentally introduced into the United States in 1985 through used tires imported from Asia.

The Asian Tiger mosquito's name comes from its black-and-white striped appearance.

This mosquito usually never travels further than ½ mile of where it breeds.

The female Asian Tiger mosquito is a daytime biter, and is often very aggressive and persistent. She may bite a person several times until she has gathered enough blood for her egg production.

Global warming will likely increase the spread of this mosquito to areas where it previously may not have survived the winters.

The Asian Tiger mosquito is invading new areas and replacing the less-aggressive Yellow Fever Mosquito species currently found in those areas.

This mosquito has been shown to be a possible vector, or carrier, of over 30 viruses, although not all of these viruses strike humans.